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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **OOTA, Hidehiko**

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

(§371 of International Application Number PCT/JP2004/017323)

Filed: September 5, 2006

For. **CHUCKING APPARATUS**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: September 5, 2006

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of this application, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendment to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page two of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page seven of this paper.